

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 2-28 are pending. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 8-10 have been rewritten in independent form. Appropriate editorial revisions have been made in the remaining claims. A new set of dependent claims has been provided for claim 9 and claim 10.

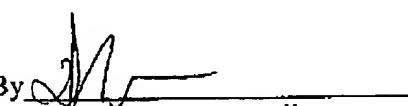
Claims 8-10 were indicated to be allowable in the Office Action. Therefore, the issues in the Office Action are rendered moot by the above amendments. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the issues.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 7, 2007

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